

REMARKS

Claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 28 have been canceled. No claims have been amended in this response. Claims 30-36 (previously amended) are currently pending in the application. All pending claims are set forth above.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 21-22, 24, and 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Ness (U.S. patent 6,027,890) in view of Giese (Analytical Chemistry (1983) 2(7): 166-168).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's application of the above references; however, in order to expedite the issuance of the allowable subject matter, Applicants have canceled the above claims from the present application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the grounds for the above rejection have been obviated and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

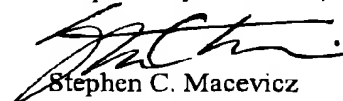
In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Ness in view of Giese, and further in view of Breslow (U.S. patent 6,331,530).

As above, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's application of the above references; however, in order to expedite the issuance of the allowable subject matter, Applicants have canceled the above claims from the present application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the grounds for the above rejection have been obviated and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the claims as written fully satisfy the requirements of Title 35 of the U.S. Code, and respectfully request that the rejections thereunder be withdrawn and that the application quickly be passed to issue.

If any additional time extensions are required, such time extensions are hereby requested. If any additional fees not submitted with this response are required, please take such fees from deposit account 50-2266.

Respectfully submitted,


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